‘Terrorist’ killed in Karak police encounter

Dawn Report

LAKKI MARWAT/SOUTH WAZIRISTAN: A suspected terrorist was killed in an exchange of fire with the police in the Madaki area of Karak district late on Monday night.

An official said a party of Takht-i-Nasrati police station was sent to the rural area as suspected terrorists had set up barriers (nakabandi) on a road.

When police reached the area and started laying a siege, the armed men opened fire, he said, adding police returned the fire, triggering a gun battle which lasted for half an hour.

When firing stopped, the cops launched a search and found the body of a terrorist along with an assault rifle, magazines and ammunition in the mountains, he said.

Meanwhile, over a dozen armed men believed to be terrorists took away seven motorcycles loaded onto a truck on Lakki-Darra Tang Road after holding the driver at gunpoint on Monday night.

Truck driver Allah Ditta, a resident of Bahwalnagar, told police that he had loaded 87 motorcycles onto his truck from Lahore to deliver them in Lakki and Karak. He said when he along with Farhad Ali, a resident of Pakpattan, reached near Thanedar station (old railway station), the vehicle developed a fault and they parked it along the road.

Suddenly, 15 armed men, some on motorcycles and other on foot, appeared on the scene and snatched seven motorcycles and mobile phones from them at gunpoint, he said.

He said the armed men put petrol they had brought in bottles into the fuel tanks of motorcycles and disappeared.

Meanwhile, police repelled an attack on the Azam Warsak police station in Birmal tehsil of Lower South Waziristan on Tuesday night.

No loss of life or property was reported as the assailants fled following an exchange of fire.

District police officer Mohammad Tahir said the prompt response by police forced the attackers to retreat. He added all police stations and checkposts across the district had been put on high alert, and additional personnel deployed to counter any potential threat.

JUI-F leader gunned down in Charsadda

By Our Correspondent

CHARSADDA: Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam-Fazl provincial council member Hafiz Abdul Salam Arif was gunned down by unknown assailants in Tangi tehsil here on Tuesday.

Investigating officer Safdar Khan said the JUI-F leader was on way home in his vehicle after offering afternoon prayers at a nearby mosque when he was attacked by two armed suspects riding a motorcycle.

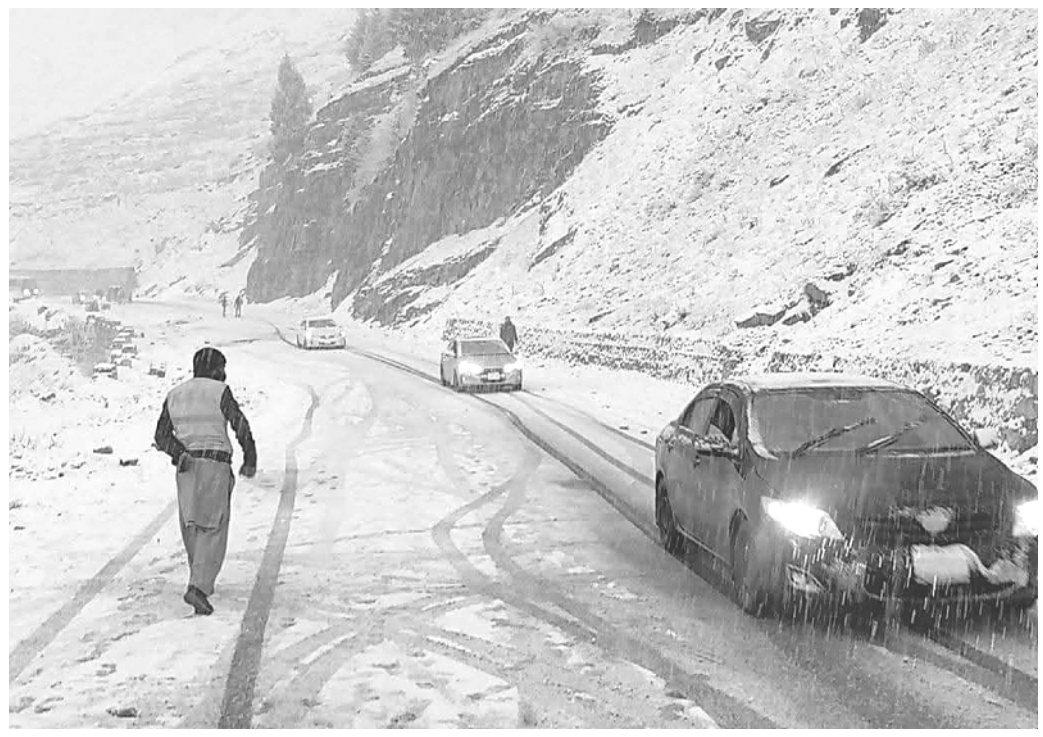
Police said the incident took place on Mandani-Takht Bhai Road. As a result of the firing, Mr Arif died on the spot, while his son, Mohammad Hassan Jan, escaped unhurt.

“The incident is being investigated from all angles,” the official said. “Police have collected evidence from the crime scene and have also called in a team of experts to provide assistance.”

The slain was also the head of a seminary in Tangi and the prayer leader at a mosque.

The police official said the deceased’s son filed a case with the Mandani police station, reporting that his father was killed on the spot while he narrowly escaped.

One dead as rain and snowfall lash KP



VEHICLES pass slowly through MNJ Road amid snowfall near Naran, Mansehra. (Right) A pick-up van being pulled out of a flooded stream in Adenzai area of Lower Dir. — Dawn

Crops damaged, traffic disrupted, power suspended in different cities

Dawn Report

PESHAWAR: A man was killed and another suffered injuries as rain lashed several parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Tuesday.

Also, mountainous areas of the province received the season’s first snowfall.

The Pakistan Meteorological Department said that in the last 24 hours, Saidu Sharif received 61mm of rain, Lower Dir 20, Kakul 19, Patan 15, Kalam 13, Upper Dir 11, Balakot 8 and Drosh 5.

Heavy rain, coupled with wind and hailstorm, lashed various parts of Lower Dir, disrupting life, damaging crops and paralysing traffic for several hours.

Hilltops like Kumrat, Lowari Top and Doog Dara also received the winter season’s first snowfall, which lowered temperatures in the region.

A man was killed and another injured when an old tree fell on a passenger van along the Talash-Sarai Payeen section of the main GT Road during the rainstorm.

The deceased was identified as Mohammad Hayat of Akhagram area in Upper Dir. Rescue 1122 personnel and volunteers retrieved the injured from under the van using heavy machinery. Mohammad Hayat, who was critically injured, succumbed to his wounds at the hospital.

According to local tubewell operator Amjad Ali, residents repeatedly requested the relevant department to remove the decaying tree, but no action was taken.

The rain and hailstorm, which started early in the morning, also caused significant damage to tomato and maize crops in Talash and Adenzai, while power supply was suspended in many areas and vehicular traffic remained severely affected.

The collapse of the tree blocked the main Peshawar-Chitral Road, connecting four districts, for several hours, leaving thousands of travelers and commuters stranded.

In another incident, a van was swept away by floodwater in Gulabad, Adenzai, though no casualties were reported.

The Rescue 1122 disaster team later recovered the vehicle by a crane.

The torrential rain and strong winds also disrupted the power supply in many localities, while the hailstorm destroyed tomato and other vegetable crops. Standing water on roads caused long traffic jams, and the sudden change in weather led to a sharp drop in temperature. Many residents were seen wearing warm clothes, while students at schools huddled together to stay warm.

Landslides and overflowing streams blocked several link roads in upper areas, creating difficulties for residents.

Upper parts of Hazara Division received the season’s first snowfall and heavy downpour on Monday, turning the weather chilly and forcing residents to take out warm clothing.

The snowfall, which began early in the morning in the high-altitude areas of Kaghan, Siren and Konsh valleys in Mansehra district and in Kandia and Spat valleys of Kohistan region, continued intermittently throughout the day.

“Though the beauty of valleys under the white blanket has become more enchanting, the biting cold has made it difficult to stay outdoors,” a visitor told reporters.

Babusar Top, Saiful Muluk lake, Basil and other mountainous stretches of the Kaghan Valley received the heaviest snowfall of the season, drawing tourists but also disrupting daily life.

Residents of upper parts of the Kaghan Valley have begun migrating to their winter abodes in Garhi Habibullah and other parts of Mansehra district as temperatures dropped sharply.

More than 80 per cent of hotels, restaurants and businesses in Naran, the valley’s main commercial hub, have already been shut down for the season.

Meanwhile, the low-lying areas of Hazara Division, including Mansehra, Torghar, Upper and Lower Kohistan, and Kolai-Palas, experienced a heavy and most intense downpour of the current winter, plunging many areas into darkness for over an hour.

“I have never witnessed such a phenomenon in my life. The rain was so heavy that it turned broad daylight into complete darkness for over an hour,” said Mohammad Ayub of Mansehra.

He added that while the winter chill had already set in, the continued downpour intensified the cold, forcing people to remain indoors for most of the day.

Heavy rain in the plains and snowfall in the upper mountainous regions on Tuesday significantly brought the temperatures down across Swat, turning the weather noticeably colder.

Snowfall was recorded in the scenic upper regions including Kalam, Matiltan, Gabral, Mahodand, Utror, Mankiyal, Gabin Jabba and Malam Jabba, where the first major snowfall of the season was welcomed by tourists but added to travel challenges for local residents.

In Mingora, the district headquarters, visibility remained low throughout the day due to dark clouds and rainfall, keeping traffic movement sparse and markets less crowded.

Meanwhile, the Pakistan Meteorological Department has forecast more rain and snowfall in the coming days, advising tourists and residents in hilly areas to take precautionary measures.

The hailstorm coupled with light rains damaged vegetables, orchards and solar panels in several areas of Bajaur.

According to reports, the powerful hailstorm that started just after the rains at 10 am and lasted for about 30 minutes, was reported in several parts of the district.

However, the residents told *Dawn* that Lowi Mamund, War Mamund, Salarzai, Utmankhel, Barang tehsil and some rural areas of Khar tehsil were the areas most affected.

“The unusually powerful hailstones, which we had never seen before, not only damaged vegetables, orchards and solar panels but also turned the weather very cold in the entire district,” said Noor Khan of Biloot area in War Mamund.

PTI to convene peace jirga next Wednesday

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: The ruling Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf on Tuesday decided to convene a “peace jirga” on November 12 (Wednesday) at the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly to discuss the volatile law and order situation in the province.

The decision was made during a high-level consultative meeting of the PTI’s provincial leadership.

The meeting was jointly chaired by Chief Minister Mohammad Sohail Afridi and PTI provincial president and MNA Junaid Akbar Khan.

The participants included Speaker of the provincial assembly Babar Saleem Swati, PTI general secretary Ali Asghar Khan, provincial ministers Meena Khan Afridi and Aftab Alam Khan, spokesman for the provincial government Shafi Jan, MNAs Atif Khan, Dr Amjid Khan and Arbab Sher Ali and Peshawar district president of the PTI Irfan Saleem.

The meeting discussed the overall political situation in the province and matters of law and order, along with the peace jirga, according to a statement issued here.

During the meeting, the PTI leadership decided that all political parties would be invited to participate in the peace jirga so that all political leadership could be united on a single platform for ensuring lasting peace and stability in the province.

The heads, presidents and general secretaries of all political parties in the province, former chief ministers, former governors, representatives of civil society and the dignitaries of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Bar Association, will be formally invited to the peace moot.

MNA Atif Khan, who is also the president of the PTI for Peshawar region, told *Dawn* that the law and order situation had reached to such an alarming level in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa that it couldn’t be handled by a single political party.

“It would be a national peace jirga in which the leadership of around 20 political parties will be invited for discussion on decisions needed to be taken for restoration of peace in the province,” he said.

Mr Khan said that the convening of the jirga was an effort for a joint struggle to restore peace.

He said that all efforts would be made to develop consensus in the upcoming peace moot.

The MNA said Chief Minister Muhammad Sohail Afridi visited the residence of chief of Paktunkhwa Milli Awai Party Mehmood Khan Achakzai and chief of Majlis-i-Wahdat Muslimeen Allama Nasir Abbas and invited them to the jirga.

During the meeting with Mr Achakzai, the national and political matters were discussed, especially the proposed 27th Constitutional Amendment and its possible impact on provincial autonomy.

Mr Afridi said that the share of the merged tribal districts had not yet been provided in the NFC Award, according to a statement issued from the Chief Minister’s House.

He said that “tampering with the NFC Award” would be harmful to national unity.

The chief minister said he and Mr Achakzai also discussed the law and order situation in Kurram tribal district as well as the proposed peace jirga and its objectives.

Mr Achakzai assured him of full cooperation for the protection of the constitutional and financial rights of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

IDPs return to Nawagai after clearance of area

BAJAUR: The district administration on Tuesday allowed people of two areas of Nawagai tehsil to return to their homes after the authorities cleared them of terrorists.

“The effective action of the security forces has cleared of militants the Kootki and Sharif Khan areas of Charmang Valley and residents could now return to their homes,” a statement issued from the deputy commissioner’s office said. PTI MPA Dr Hamidur Rehman also confirmed the development in a social media post on Tuesday, saying efforts were underway to allow residents of other areas to return home soon.

TRADER SHOT DEAD: A trader was shot dead by unknown assailants in Falang area of Khar tehsil on Monday night, police and local residents said on Tuesday.

A police official quoting local residents as saying that Abdul Qayum was heading home with his father on a motorcycle from Khar Bazaar when unknown motorcyclists opened fire on him, leaving him critically injured. He said a police team shifted the injured to the District Headquarters Hospital. However, the 27-year-old succumbed to his injuries.

The official said the deceased’s father, Mohammad Rooz Khan, remained unharmed in the attack.

He said that an investigation was launched into the incident after the registration of an FIR against the unknown assailants on the complained of the deceased’s father. The complainant said they had no dispute with anyone in the area. — Correspondent

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Invitation for Bid

for

“Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of RF Transmitters for Platform Screen Doors for New Buses”

Ref No: TPC/OPS/OCB/RFT/2025-26/003 **Date:** November 05, 2025

1. TransPeshawar (The Urban Mobility Company) is a Company set up under Section 42 of the Companies Act, 2017, and is responsible for project implementation, management and maintenance of urban rapid transit projects assigned by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Urban Mobility Authority.
2. TransPeshawar (The Urban Mobility Company) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders registered with FBR for income and sales tax (NTN and STRN) and reflected on the Active Tax Payer List (ATL) of FBR for **“Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of RF Transmitters for Platform Screen Doors for New Buses”**. Detailed scope of supply is provided in Bid Solicitation Document.
3. A complete set of Bid Solicitation Document available on website of TransPeshawar (http://transpeshawar.pk/) and EPADS from publishing of advertisement in the newspaper till last day for submission of bids.
4. Procurement will be carried out as per Act and Rules of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (KPPRA). Competitive bidding will be conducted in accordance with the Single Stage: One Envelope bidding procedure.
5. Bids complete in all respects must be submitted electronically through EPADS on or before **November 20, 2025 at 11:30 AM (PST).** Hard bid submission is not allowed.
6. Bid security of requisite shape, form and amount shall be submitted in a manner as provided under relevant Bid Solicitation Document.
7. Bids shall be opened through EPADS on the same day **November 20, 2025 at 12:00 PM (PST)** in the presence of bidder who choose to attend.
8. The advertisement is also available both on the websites of TransPeshawar (http://transpeshawar.pk), KPPRA (http://kppra.gov.pk) and EPADS. TransPeshawar reserves the right to cancel any or all bids by assigning cogent reason.

Chief Executive Officer
TransPeshawar (The Urban Mobility Company)
First (1st) Floor, KPUMA Building, Main BRT Depot, Opposite NHA Complex,
Main GT Road, Peshawar, KPK, Pakistan
Ph: +92 91 2621393

Future of medical students at stake over Torkham border closure

PkSF asks govt to facilitate them to appear in exam

By Ibrahim Shinwari

KHYBER: The future of more than 300 students of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, currently enrolled at different medical institutions in Afghanistan, is at risk owing to continuous closure of Torkham border.

Most of these students, hailing from different districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, have either come home on vacations or for taking back money for their next semesters.

The abrupt closure of borders with Afghanistan on October 12 owing to clashes between the border forces of Pakistan and Afghanistan caused their ‘unwilling’ stay at their homes with no clear information about any immediate restoration of cross-border movement.

Gul Shad Khan, a 4th semester student at Rokhan Medical Institute in Jalalabad, told *Dawn* that he had come to Bara, his hometown, prior to closure of border to take back the required fee for his next semester and also to renew his visa.

He said that he and hundreds of ‘stranded’ students of different medical institutions in Afghanistan were at risk of missing their planned examinations for promotion to next semester if they were not allowed to go to Afghanistan without further delay.

He said while they were impatiently awaiting resumption of cross-border movement, the higher education department of Afghanistan was not willing to provide them with an extension in their examination time.

He said that Afghan authorities conveyed to them in clear terms to appear in the examination on stipulated date with no relaxation for any one.

Sajid Ali, another 4th semester student, told *Dawn* that most of Pakistani students, particularly from KP, were from middle and lower middle class families and had to do part time jobs at various hospitals in different cities of Afghanistan.

“We are confronted with a grave situation owing to closure of borders as our examinations are about to start. We are at risk of losing one full year term if we could not appear in the examinations,” he said.

He said that their poor financial background also did not permit them to travel by air as air tickets were beyond their financial resources.

He said that the visa type they were issued also required them to travel by road and not by air.

He said that the entire academic year of 5th and 6th semester students would be lost if they missed the examinations, which would confront them with both financial and mental stress.

Meanwhile, Pakhtun Students Federation has also expressed concerns over delay in reopening of border and denial of permission to local medical students to resume their studies in Afghanistan.

PkSF leader Abdul Wahab Afridi in a statement appealed to interior and foreign ministries to allow the stranded students to either go to Afghanistan by road or arrange for them a special aeroplane to take them to their respective cities for timely appearance in examinations.

Also, nearly 1,000 Pakistanis, who got stranded in Kabul and Jalalabad owing to closure of borders, appealed to the government of Pakistan to allow them to come to their homes.

In a telephonic contact with this scribe from Kabul, Fakhruddin Shinwari, a resident of Landi Kotal, said that they were not allowed to go back to Pakistan despite a relaxation given to stranded Afghan families in Pakistan.

He said that there were people among the stranded Pakistanis, who exhausted all their money while waiting for reopening of the border.

He also demanded of the government to arrange for their immediate return as they could not afford further stay in Afghanistan.